

Government into the problem of waste disposal by the hospitals;

(b) if so, the findings and remedial measures suggested in the regard;

(c) the steps being taken by the Government for disposal, recycling, replacing and resale of the imperishable hospital waste;

(d) whether any aid has been sought by the State of Kerala or any other States from the Central Government for introducing scientific methods of the waste disposal;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the amount allocated to each State to introduce safe methods of disposal of the hospital wastes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Government have notified the draft Bio-Medical Wastes (Management and Bandling) Rules, 1995 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 soliciting suggestions from the public.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Question does not arise.

Freedom Fighters Pension

616. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of freedom fighters applications for the grant of pension pending with the Government as on date, state-wise; and

(b) the time by which all the pending applications are likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) All timely applications for grant of Freedom Fighters pension have been considered at least once and appropriate decisions communicated to the applicants. Aggrieved with the decision of the Government regarding rejection of claims, the applicants keep on sending review petitions/representations. If the applicants furnish some additional acceptable documentary evidence along with such review petitions/representations such cases are reconsidered. However, as on 10.2.1997, only 52 fresh applications received recently from the following States/ Union territory Administration were pending with the Government for disposal :

Andhra Pradesh	12
Haryana	1
Jammu & Kashmir	6
Karnataka	3
Maharashtra	4
Madhya Pradesh	2
Rajasthan	2
Uttar Pradesh	21
Delhi	1
Total	52

While every possible effort is made to communicate the decision to the applicants on their claims in the shortest possible time, receipt and disposal of claims for pension being a continuous process, no definite time-frame can be laid down for disposal of claims for pension.

Recommendations of Law Commission

617. SHRI V. PRADEEP DEV : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Law Commission in its report has interalia suggested incorporation of new Section in Cr. P. C. for providing funds to compensate and rehabilitate victims or their dependents, creation of independent prosecuting agency, separate investigating agency to facilitate the expeditious investigation and trials;

(b) whether the said recommendations have been accepted; and

(c) the further action being taken or proposed to be taken in the matter and the time by which ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The matter is receiving attention of the Government.

Loan and Subsidy to Super Bazar

618. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of loan and subsidy received by the Super Bazar in each of the last three years;

(b) the purpose therefor and the manner in which the subsidy and loans were utilised;

(c) the reasons for poor performance of the Super Bazar; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the affairs of the Super Bazar ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) The details of loan and subsidy provided to Super Bazar, Delhi during the last three years are given in the statement enclosed.

According to the information furnished by the Super Bazar, Delhi, financial assistance received during 1993-94 has been fully utilised by them. Out of release of Rs. 12 lakhs made during 1994-95, only an amount of Rs. 8.67 lakhs have been utilised by them while the assistance released during 1995-96 is yet to be utilised by the Super Bazar, Delhi.

(c) and (d) The Super Bazar, Delhi is an autonomous co-operative society having its own Board of Directors to manage its affairs. The sales of the Super Bazar, Delhi has been steadily going up during the last five years and it is in profit.

Statement

Purpose	(Rs. in lakhs)		
	Loan	Subsidy	Total
1993-94			
Renovation of 26 branches	2.00	3.20	5.20
Installation of two Generator sets	4.50	0.80	5.30
Purchase of Delivery Van	1.50	—	1.50
	8.00	4.00	12.00
1994-95			
For computerisation of Accounts/other areas	4.00	2.50	6.5
Renovation/modification	4.00	1.50	5.50
	8.00	4.00	12.00
1995-96			
For opening of 10 branches	2.50	2.00	4.50
Renovation/modification of 10 branches	4.00	1.00	5.00
Computerisation/installation of cash Registrex Machines	9.50	5.00	14.50
	16.00	8.00	24.00

Demand and Supply of Essential Commodities

619. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the gap between demand and supply of essential commodities like edible oil, wheat, rice and sugar in the country; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to fill up this gap ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) There is no gap between demand and supply of commodities like rice and sugar in the country. There was a decline in wheat production during 1996-97 to the tune of about 3 million tonnes. The gap between demand and supply of edible oils for 1996-97 is estimated around 9 lakh tonnes.

(b) In order to meet the decline in the production of wheat, action has been initiated to import upto 2 million tonnes of wheat. To meet the requirements of edible oil, imports are allowed under Open General Licence and through State Trading Corporation for distribution through the Public Distribution System.

[Translation]

Investment in Fertilizer Industry

620. SHRI SOHANBEER : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate any long term policy in order to make the Fertilizer Industry profitable and favourable for investment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Industrialists are not interested in making investment in the fertilizer industry because of the wrong policy of the Government; and

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to the change their policy ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) and (b) A High Powered Fertilizer Pricing Policy Review Committee have been constituted on 28.1.97 to review the existing system of subsidization of urea and suggest a rational, broad based, scientific and transparent methodology. The Committee is required to submit its report within 6 months. The terms of reference of the Committee include review of the adequacy or otherwise of incentives to the fertilizer industry and issues relating to reasonableness of